

Royal Burgh of Wick Community Council

Meeting Minutes

Location: Via Zoom

Date: Monday 4th July 2022

Time: 7pm

Present	Elected Members	Joanna Coghill	(JC)	Chairperson
		Allan Farquhar	(AF1)	Vice-Chair
		Wendy Campbell	(WC)	
		David Dunnett	(DD)	
		Doreen Turner	(DT)	
		Alastair Ferrier	(AF2)	
	Co-opted Members	Allan Bruce	(AB)	
		Roy Mackenzie	(RM)	
		Eswyl Fell	(EF)	
	Ex-officio Members	Raymond Bremner	(Cllr RB)	Highland Councillor
		Jan McEwan	(Cllr JM)	Highland Councillor
	Non-Members	Jayden Alexander	(JA)	Secretary
		Alan Hendry	(AH)	NOSN
Willie Watt		(WW)	Sefarer's Memorial Group Representative	

1. Welcome and Apologies.

JC welcomed everyone to the meeting. No apologies had been received.

2. Adoption and Approval of Previous Minutes.

The minutes of the previous meeting held on Monday 10th January 2022 was circulated by JA.

These minutes were approved and adopted as follows, subject to the two amendments noted by JA:

Proposed By: AB

Seconded By: DT

3. Presentation from Wick Seafarer's Memorial Group

Willie Watt gave a vote of thanks to RBWCC for the invitation and proceeded to give detailed presentation on the memorial proposals. The funding target which was £100,000 has been reached and the group have been very fortunate with lots of donations, bequeaths and the likes of raffle prizes for fundraising. The group have engaged with the community via various types of events and presentations. Four possible locations for the memorial at Braehead were looked at and the final location has now been agreed on and a lease from the owner of the ground for £1 will be signed. An artists' competition was held for the memorial design and the committee scored each design based upon the criteria. The chosen designer is Alan Beattie Harriott who is known for lots of previous sculpture designs throughout Scotland. The sculpture is holding a fish in one hand with the other hand pointing down towards the four plaques below on the column which will depict the names of the individuals who had been lost at sea. There will be five columns surrounding the monument which will depict designs drawn by pupils at Wick High School with lighting to illuminate the memorial. Clay models will be taken of the design and then moulds from the models will be taken. JC thanked Willie for his very detailed and interesting presentation and RBWCC wished the group well on what is going to be a brilliant new addition to the town.

4. BBC Filming of "My Kind of Town"

JC commented on the filming carried out by BBC for the TV documentary of "My Kind of Town". They apparently mentioned how they could not believe how much Wick had to offer.

5. Report from Local Police.

A report was received from the local police in advance of the meeting. JA circulated this to RBWCC members.

In a previous email it was touched on how some sort of community engagement would be beneficial to the town

with the likes of a pop-up Police shop. It was communicated to RBWCC that Wick will be allocated a Community Outreach Officer. JA is to ask for a trends report so that RBWCC can explore the various issues going on.

6. Highland Councilors' Report

JC welcomed new Councilor and newly appointed Provost, JM and thanked her for coming along to get to know everyone. JC asked Cllr RB about an enquiry raised from x3 locals regarding money which had been pledged to go towards the refurbishment of play parks in the town. Cllr RB is to seek clarification regarding this. AB raised to Cllr RB that it is vital that it needs to be communicated to everyone that new playpark equipment must be respected (E.g.- the rubber protection around the trampoline at Riverside Park cost £600 to replace). AB suggested that it is achieving a good balance of a maintenance regime and protection for the likes of vandalism (E.g.- CCTV, motion sensor lighting etc.) that should achieve this. Cllr JM is to communicate what her job description is as Provost to JA. AB highlighted that RBWCC are leading a project to blitz Wick Town Centre in time for the first Gala in three years. AB said "We are keen to work with our local HC employees but this is our push to give them a helping hand". JC thanked AB for spearheading this along with the huge improvement works carried out on Bankhead Road.

7. Report from Noss Power Station (SSE Transmissions).

Due to no representatives being in attendance, no report was provided.

8. Update from Wick Development Trust.

Due to no representatives being in attendance, no update was provided.

9. Update on East Caithness Community Campus and Noss Primary School.

AF1 confirmed that one of the panels on the side of the high school building had been replaced. Cllr RB is to investigate what the current condition is of the All-Weather pitches.

10. Review of Monthly Correspondence List.

Due to a printing issue, the correspondence list for June was provided, however, JC indicated that any RBWCC members should highlight any questions or concerns to JA.

11. Review of Action List.

Due to a printing issue, the action list for June was not provided, however, JC reiterated that RBWCC members have digital copies and that most actions were in hand.

12. Treasury Reports.

Community Council Accounts: TBC

Wick Community Market: £3,750.79

Wick Christmas Lights: TBC

Wick Flower Baskets: TBC

HAPPY: AF1 advised that a bank statement had not been Received but would confirm.

13. Community Council Sub-Group Reports.

Wick Community Market:	AF1 confirmed that the next market would be held on Saturday 23 rd July.
Wick Christmas Lights:	Due to the absence of CM, no report was provided.
Wick Flower Baskets:	EF confirmed that planting had now been completed and the new volunteers have made a welcoming contribution and quiz sheets are now being collected for fundraising. However, some tubs in the Market Square had been vandalized but this was quickly fixed by willing volunteers.
Wick Paths Group:	AB confirmed that the group's insurance is in place and that they are awaiting delivery of a new brush tool. Confirmation from the HC ward manager regarding access to the WWII building in the grounds of former library is also awaited. JA is to chase this up.
HAPPY:	AF1 said that there was nothing to report.

14. Council Business:

- JA issued copies of the RBWCC constitution to all members, JA will email HC Ward Manager to inform him of RBWCC'S current membership status due to Kimberley Miller-Rosie resigning from her post.
- JA is to compose a letter to The Wick Society to request that they locate some of the missing items which RM believe to be in their possession.

15. AOCB.

- JC advised that the Kirkhill Benches are now in the process of being refurbished.
- JC asked JA to write a letter of complaint addressed to Donna Manson of HC with regards to the whale carcass.

JC thanked everyone for their attendance and the meeting then closed for private business discussion between RBWCC members and the Secretary only.

Date of Next Meeting: Monday 1st August 2022 at 7pm, Mowat Room in Wick Assembly Rooms.

